



You too can be an

everyday hero

Heartland Combined Federal Campaign

Issue 1 August 2003

Agency Contributions

Many federal agencies participated in multiple teams during this year's Day of Caring. Below are a few examples of dedication to the metro area.

- Department of Transportation: 54 participants worked to improve the condition of the Bridge Home for Children in KC, MO. They painted walls, repaired loose boards and cleaned out storage rooms, among other things.

- Office of Personnel Management: Volunteers helped with a barbecue celebration dinner for single mothers who had graduated from high school or received their GED this year.

- U.S. General Services Administration: Over 150 associates participated on GSA teams, contributing to 11 projects on behalf of the elderly, homebound, children with disabilities and other charitable causes.

- Internal Revenue Service: A team of 17 volunteers organized a food and clothing pantry for the East Hills Village, a low-income housing community that offers social services and activities for children and adults.

Federal Community Lends a Hand



The Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Commerce, Central Administrative Support Center, worked on landscaping and grounds cleanup at Sherwood Center, an organization that provides services to children and adults with autism and related disabilities.

Just about everywhere you looked in the metro area on June 21, you were greeted with visions of volunteers wearing red, white and blue Day of Caring T-Shirts.

Through a joint effort between the United Way and the Combined Federal Campaign, over 251 projects were completed at 126 locations across the metro area. With 4,926 volunteers donating a combined 27,093 hours of work, over \$448,000 in time, labor and materials was contributed to the metro area.

Over 80 federal agencies participated in the Day of Caring. Projects ranged from fishing with teens to landscaping to maintenance tasks.

These federal teams helped people and organizations that did not have the time, energy or resources to complete necessary projects.

"I am continually amazed by the federal community," said GSA Regional Administrator, Brad Scott. "It warms the heart to know that these individuals care so much."



Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars - raise funds for worthy causes and have fun!

CFC Kick-Off **Sept. 17**

Illus W. Davis Civic Mall, Downtown Kansas City, MO, 11:00-1:30. Food, games, prizes, raffles, dignitaries, charity fair and more!

CFC Golf Tournament **Oct. 13**

Chapel Ridge Golf Course, Lee's Summit, MO. Participate in your agency's golf tournament. Winners will advance to the CFC golf tournament which includes a 4-person scramble, special event holes/contests, prizes and raffle.

The CFC/United Way Partnership

CFC regulations require that every local campaign be managed by a non-profit agency under an annual contract. United Way applies to the Greater Kansas City Federal Executive Board (FEB) every February to serve as the Principal Combined Fundraising Organization. United Way is not paid a fee, but receives reimbursements for approved CFC expenditures through the annual budget approved by the FEB. United Way and its partner agencies must also apply independently to participate in the campaign and is eligible to receive donations.

Next Issue:

- A word from CFC co-chairs Brad Scott and Phil Vaughn
- Success Story: your CFC donations at work
- Common misconceptions about the CFC
- CFC kick-off event information
- Donor levels



Changing Lives: your CFC donations at work

Back in 1999, Brian McCusker was deeply depressed. He was struggling to control his epilepsy and diabetes that had plagued him since high school. A 39-year-old college graduate with a degree in computer science, he couldn't find a job and was still living with his parents. "I really wanted to work and live on my own, but no one would hire me."

Advances in technology made Brian's computer science degree from the 1990's virtually obsolete. Intermittent epileptic seizures left him unable to drive. Medication helped control Brian's seizures and he took additional computer training classes, but he still had trouble finding a job. Upon hearing that Brian had epilepsy, employers would not hire him.

That's when Brian and his parents heard about a program through the Epilepsy Foundation designed to help find jobs for people with epilepsy. The program staff helped Brian revise his resume, sharpen his interview skills and use the internet as a job hunting tool. But most important of all, they gave Brian actual job leads through employers they worked with in the past.

One of his interviews was at the Kansas City Regional Center, where 150 employees work for the Missouri Department of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities. They were seeking a computer network technician,



McCusker hard at work in his new job.

and hired Brian. Brian moved out of his parent's house and found an apartment right across the street, so his inability to drive isn't a problem.

While he's heard of CFC & United Way, Brian had no idea that they helped support the Epilepsy Foundation's employment services program. In fact, Heart of America United Way directs \$1.75 million from Community Care funds to employment assistance and job training programs across the metro area. People like Brian, who benefit from the programs, will tell you it is money that is well-spent.

Brian says, "I love my job and the feeling of being part of a team. When I look into my bank account and see that I'm supporting myself it makes me feel really good. I even have an IRA. It gives me a sense of optimism and hope for the future. I'm convinced that I can do even more."

How your dollar stacks up

\$520	Saves over 50 people from cholera
\$260	Provides over 3,000 lbs. of food from Harvesters for food pantries
\$120	Provides food for 27 refugee children for 20 days
\$80	Provides 12 nights of shelter for a homeless person
\$45	Provides corn seed for 18 families to plant
\$36	Provides one hour of training in wildlife protection

